COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BEFORE THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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In the Matter of

THE APPLICATION OF COLUMBIA GAS)
OF KENTUCKY, INC., FOR AUTHORITY)
TO REVISE ITS TARIFF TO PROVIDE) CASE NO. 7756
FOR A BUDGET PAYMENT PLAN)

ORDER

On February 26, 1980, Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc., filed its Application to revise its tariff to include a Budget Payment Plan ("Budget Plan") whereby its customers may elect to have their total gas service charges estimated for the twelvementh Budget Plan Year, August 1 through July 31, and thereafter be billed each month for 1/12 of such estimate, with an adjustment made in the twelfth-month billing to reflect any difference between the amount due and the amount paid by the customer.

The Commission, having reviewed the application and tariff and being advised FINDS:

- (1) The Applicant has been for many years and is presently providing its residential heating customers with the optional payment plan referred to as the Budget Plan.
- (2) Approximately one-third of the Applicant's customers have voluntarily exercised their choice to participate in the Budget Plan arrangement for payment of bills.
- (3) The Applicant's Budget Plan is fair and equitable and should be approved.
- (4) The record before the Commission provides sufficient evidence upon which to base a decision, and the filing of further data or taking of further evidence would serve no purpose.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, that a formal hearing is hereby waived.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that the proposed tariff revision be and it is hereby approved, effective on and after the date of this Order. The pages of the tariff filing herein approved are:

Original Sheet No. 24

Original Sheet No. 25

Original Sheet No. 26

Original Sheet No. 27

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, that Columbia Gas of Kentucky, Inc., file with the Commission appropriate tariff sheets, as approved herein, within thirty (30) days from the date of this Order.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this the 20th day of June, 1980.

Charman

Vice Chairman

Commissioner

ATTEST:

Secretary